

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is derived from a blood feeding ectoparasite.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein said histacalin protein is derived from a tick.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is the MS-HBP1, FS-HBP1, FS-HBP2 or D.RET6 protein, a functional equivalent thereof or an active fragment thereof.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient is also used in the manufacture of the medicament.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein one or more antihistamine agents or anti-sedative agents is also used in the manufacture of the medicament.

7. (Amended) A method of treating or preventing allergic rhinitis comprising administering to a subject a histacalin protein as described in claim 1 or a pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 5 in a therapeutically-effective dosage.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein said allergic rhinitis is seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis.